

COL-3: Challenged Material and Programs Policy

Effective: June 15, 2022; **Supersedes:** February 8, 2022; MNG-5, Patron Request-Reconsideration of Library Materials, November 11, 2005

Policy Statement: The Camden County Library System provides a method for library users to request reconsideration of library materials and programs.

Regulations:

1. Library materials are selected and retained in accordance with criteria set forth in the Library's Collection Development Policy, COL-1.
2. Library sponsored programs are selected and presented in accordance with criteria set forth in the Library's Programming Policy, CUS-7.
3. While a Library user may not agree with the viewpoints offered in some materials or programs, the Library has a responsibility to provide balanced collections and programs that represent the needs of our diverse communities.
4. If a patron wishes the Library to reconsider the inclusion of items in the collection or programs, this process is followed:
 - 4.1. The patron is provided a copy of the Challenged Materials Policy to review.
 - 4.2. The patron is provided a copy of the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials and Programs form or provided with online access to the digital version of the form.
 - 4.3. The patron must complete and submit the form to the Library Director to initiate a review of the material.
 - 4.4. The item that is challenged will not be removed from the collection or shelves during the review.
 - 4.5. A program will not be cancelled or postponed during the review.
 - 4.6. The Library Director will review the request, the item in question, the program (unless already presented and a recording is not available), the program presenter/speaker, reviews of the item or program, and criteria set forth in the Collection Development and Programming Policy.
 - 4.7. The Library Director will send a response in writing to the patron along with a copy of the Collection Development or Programming Policy.
 - 4.8. If the patron is not satisfied with the Library Director's response, the matter will be referred to the Library Commission for review.
 - 4.9. The Commission will send a written response to the patron. The decision of the Library Commission is final.